

United States Navy, and to wish him fair winds and following seas as he closes his distinguished military career.

COMMENDING UNC PRESIDENT
HANK BROWN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a former congressional colleague and good friend, Senator Hank Brown. Senator Brown recently stepped down as president of the University of Northern Colorado, a highly regarded institution of nearly 11,000 students in Greeley, CO. As president of the University, Senator Brown combined his past experiences in law, business, politics, and higher education to truly transform the school into a leading university.

Prior to becoming president of the University of Northern Colorado, Senator Brown served a distinguished career in the Colorado State Legislature, U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. While a U.S. Senator, he also taught night classes in political science at Catholic University and public policy at the Graduate School at Georgetown University. I am honored to follow Senator Brown in serving the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, the House will recall Senator Brown as a remarkable American. His service to the country was marked by his courage, thoughtful deliberative style, his cogent rhetorical manner, and his honest character. Hank Brown embodied Colorado in the Congress, and he still does today as Citizen Brown. He represented his state and country throughout the world with clarity of purpose and a noble vision steeped in the nation's glorious history. He was and remains an authentic statesman. Coloradans are forever grateful for Senator Brown's contributions to the state, for his leadership, and for his compassion. He's a Colorado hero.

Mr. Speaker, I have the great honor to know Senator Brown as a friend and mentor. From the time I served in the Colorado State Senate, while Brown was my Congressman, I relied on his counsel, wisdom and example. As his successor in Congress, I continue to be driven by his legacy in hopes that I might come close to achieving even a portion of Senator Brown's accomplishments on behalf of the people of Colorado. The agenda he established for his constituency has clearly endured. It is a plan for freedom, liberty, and prosperity that has been followed by Senator WAYNE ALLARD, and me, and I am confident that my replacement here will likewise follow in the Hank Brown tradition. He is one of the most decent people I know. Moreover, I am continually assured by our colleagues who served with him that he earned from all in this Capitol the greatest degree of respect and admiration. Hardly a day goes by without someone saying, "Bob, please say 'hello' to Hank for me."

On October 18, 2002, Senator Brown will be honored at a roast on his behalf to benefit the Hank Brown Scholarship for Excellence Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund will assist countless students in attending the Univer-

sity of Northern Colorado. There is no other individual more deserving of a UNC scholarship namesake than Senator Brown.

As UNC's 11th president, Senator Brown has made a profound impact upon the University. He has helped increase admissions standards three times while maintaining the lowest faculty-to-student teaching ratio of all four-year universities in Colorado. He has reduced the budget for administration by \$6 million, redirecting funding to faculty salaries. Under Senator Brown's leadership, the UNC Foundation has doubled and total assets under management rose from \$43.9 million to nearly \$100 million. Additionally, Senator Brown has secured more than \$270 million in state support for the building and renovation of educational and residential facilities on the campus, more than what had been received in the previous 30 years.

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, please join me in commending Senator Hank Brown for his 22 years of public service and his deep commitment to the students and faculty at the University of Northern Colorado. It is fitting and appropriate for us to honor this man upon the establishment of the Hank Brown Scholarship for Excellence Endowment Fund. For generations to come, students will benefit from the opportunities presented by its lasting legacy.

IN RECOGNITION OF FORMER CON-
GRESSMAN ROMAN C. PUCINSKI

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a former colleague and dear friend, Mr. Roman Pucinski. Mr. Pucinski, who passed away in Park Ridge, Illinois, on September 25, 2002, represented the northwest side of the City of Chicago in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1959 to 1973.

Pucinski grew up in a heavily Polish neighborhood now called Wicker Park. His youth was shaped by his father's abandonment of his mother and siblings when he was a child and by the Depression in his pre-teen years when he wore government-issued shoes, said his daughter Aurelia, who followed her father into politics and served as Cook County Circuit Court clerk from 1988 to 2000.

Pucinski, articulate and never at a loss for words, had an early interest in public affairs. After graduating from Northwestern University, he worked as a reporter, as a bombardier during World War II and as a bilingual chief investigator for a special House subcommittee investigating the Katyn Forest massacre of thousands of Polish military officers by the Soviets during the war. Urged by Mayor Richard J. Daley to run for Congress, Pucinski entered the 11th District race on the Northwest Side in 1958 and won.

From the start of his tenure in Congress, Representative Pucinski ("Pooch" to colleagues and friends) mounted a one-man effort to require airlines to install crash-proof cockpit voice recorders in airplanes. Despite organized opposition from the major airlines, Pucinski kept the pressure on and in 1964 the Federal Aviation Administration issued an order requiring air carriers to install crash-

proof cockpit voice recorders in their aircraft. Commonly referred to as the "black box", cockpit voice recorders are now a critical component of aviation safety. Black boxes provide vital information about the final minutes of airline disasters to accident investigators and have helped determine the cause of several plane crashes.

As a decorated Air Force pilot, Pucinski knew that a recording of last minute cockpit conversations would provide vital clues to the cause of airline tragedies. During World War II, Pucinski led his bomber group in the first B-29 bombing raid over Tokyo. He flew 48 other combat missions over Japan and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with Clusters. From his own personal experience as a pilot, Pucinski understood that, in the last few minutes preceding an air tragedy, the cockpit crew is far too busy trying to save their passengers and aircraft to radio formal reports to a ground station. However, a crash-proof tape recorder operating automatically during flight preserves a record of everything said in the cockpit for accident investigators.

As a result of Roman Pucinski's dedicated and courageous leadership in the establishment of crash-proof tape recorders in commercial airliners, accident investigation and aviation safety have been significantly advanced in the public interest, and outstanding results for the national aviation system have been achieved.

In addition, Pucinski spent much of his career serving Chicago's Polish community. After serving in Congress, Pucinski became the longtime president of the Illinois Division of the Polish American Congress, and he led a number of rallies in Chicago protesting communism in Poland. He supported Poland's Solidarity labor movement, and over the years he helped to raise \$1.5 million as the movement gained international prominence.

Roman Pucinski's legacy will surely include his lasting contribution to aviation safety and involvement with the Polish American community, but it will also show him as a caring and dedicated leader. His daughter, Aurelia, has said of him "He understood that in order to get things done for ordinary people, you had to be in the position where people would listen to you. He loved the problem solving part of it. That energized him. He loved meeting people, loved wading into a room of strangers to find out what they were thinking, identify with them, and have the chance to represent them."

Mr. Speaker, Roman Pucinski was a committed public servant and was revered and respected by nearly all who knew him. I ask our colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of such a dedicated and courageous man. He will be greatly missed.

IN HONOR OF MS. DORELLA BOND

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Dorella Bond, from my district in Grand Prairie, Texas. On October 2nd of this year, Ms. Bond will celebrate her 50th anniversary working for Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control and its predecessor companies.